

LAMINATED STRENGTH-REINFORCED WINDOW ASSEMBLIES**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

[0055] A laminated strength-reinforced window assembly comprises a sheet of strength-reinforced transparent material, first and second transparent windowpane sheets. The strength-reinforced sheet has a tensile strength value, an impact resistance value, an environmental resistance value, an upper sealing surface and a lower sealing surface. Each windowpane sheet has a respective tensile strength value, impact resistance value and environmental resistance value. The first sheet is disposed over at least a part of the upper sealing surface and the second sheet is disposed under at least a part of the lower sealing surface. At least one of the tensile strength value, the impact resistance value and the environmental resistance value of the strength-reinforced material is significantly greater than the corresponding value of one of the first and second windowpanes. The windowpane sheets are hermetically bonded to the sheet of strength-reinforced material without non-hermetic adhesives to form a continuous hermetic joint therebetween.